Security arrangements at Srinagar Airport

1435. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of 7th June, 1986 wherein it has been stated that security arrangements at Srinagar airport are not adequate and passengers could avoid checking of their parcels etc. by paying Rupees Two per parcel; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps Government propose to take to prevent such practice and keep watch on the security arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allegations made in the news item are without any base. Therefore, the question of Government action does not arise.

Reimbursement by Railway to Gujarat

1436. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Government has made a representation to the Railways to the effect that about 60 lacs M.Ts. of coal in thermal power stations per annum and 7 lacs M.Ts. by industrial units are consumed in Gujarat and the Railways have fixed the capacity of Box-n-wagons at 59 MTs as minimal weight condition but the actual weighment on receipts reveal that capacity utilisation of these wagons is around 50 MTs. and thus Gujarat loses about 17 per cent of the total coal carried by Railways but reimbursement is not made by Railways;

(b) whether Railway would charge the actual tonnage freight and thus reimburse 17 per cent loss in terms of freight suffered by Gujarat; and

(c) what is the freight per Box 'N' wagon from western coal fields, Madhya Pradesh coal fields, Maharashtra and Orissa coal fields to Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Representations have been received from Gujarat Electricity Board and Gujarat Chamber of Commerce regarding loadability of coal in Box 'N' wagons.

(b) As per rules, freight charges are levied on the notified minimum weight. Density of coal varies from source to source. Railways are not liable for loss, if any, due to short loading by any colliery.

(c) Freight charge for coal in Box 'N' wagons varies depending on the minimum weight for charge applicable at the particular siding, the marked carrying capacity of the Box 'N' wagon used, and the exact distance from a specific loading point. Freight charges at train-load rates, excluding Labour Department Cess and Siding Charges, for slack coal per Box 'N' wagon from certain colliery sidings to Ahmedabad are given below:

1. Korba (CIC Fields)—Rs. 15,894 for the chargeable weight of carrying capacity of 58.8 tonnes.

2. Duman Hill (Korea-Rewa)—Rs. 14,131 for the chargeable weight of 57 tonnes.

Box 'N' wagons are not being supplied at present for loading of coal from collieries in Maharashtra and Orissa.